

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/015,181	POEPPELMAN ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Shelly A. Chase	2133	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11-20-2001.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-18.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 20 November 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

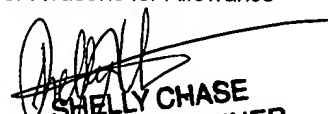
\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying Indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)           |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                              |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance  |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____   |

  
**SHELLY CHASE**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 1 to 18 are presented for examination.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. Claims 1 to 18 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the instant invention is directed to a method and an apparatus for correcting data utilizing a created error mask in combination with an exact match function. The prior art made of record teaches various methods and or systems for correcting errors of a digital signal for a communication channel; however, the prior art made of record fails to specifically teach the novel combination of elements of the instant invention.

Specifically, the prior art made of record, taken alone or in combination fails to teach or fairly suggest or render obvious the steps of "creating an error mask utilizing said list of most probable errors; and performing an exact match function for each row of said reconstructed data block" as recited in the independent claims (1, 8 and 13).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

***Conclusion***

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Marianetti, II (USP 6757862 B1), discloses a method and an apparatus for generating an error correction code using a first and second mask value stored in a first and second look-up table.

Lee (USP 6694477 B1), discloses a communication channel employing an error correction code wherein an error event detector enables the detection and correction of errors.

Hassner et al. (USP 6654924 B1), discloses a method for correcting errors of a digital phase signal wherein an error correction module and a complex correlator circuit are used for error correction of the digital data.

Yang (USP 6625774 B1), discloses a redundancy system for locating errors in an interleaved word using column parity check symbol.

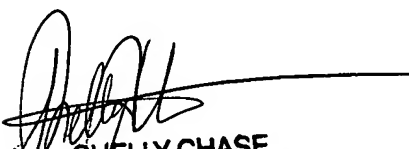
Livingston (USP 6513141 B1), discloses a post-processor for correcting errors in a sequence of a sample amplitude read channel wherein an error metric generator generates error metric and an error corrector processes the error metric to detect and correct errors.

Livingston (USP 6434719 B1), teaches error correction for transmitted data wherein a matching circuit matches the column of the matrix having incorrect parity with a list of likely error events to generate a list of error instances. Livingston also teaches that the list of error instances is used to detect errors in each row.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shelly A. Chase whose telephone number is 571-272-3816. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thur from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Albert Decady can be reached on 571-272-3819. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



**SHELLY CHASE**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**